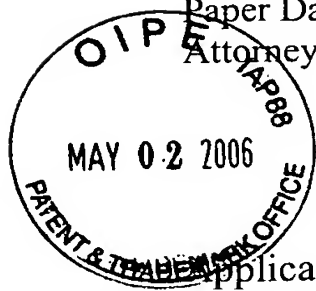


Application No. 10/687,960
Paper Dated: April 26, 2006
Attorney Docket No. 2202-031542



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/687,960 Confirmation No. 9884
Applicant : John C. STANKUS et al.
Filed : October 17, 2003
Title : YIELDABLE PROP
Group Art Unit : 3673
Examiner : Sunil Singh
Customer No. : 28289

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

05/03/2006 HNGUYEN1 00000045 10687960
01 FC:1806 180.00 OP

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

The Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due mailed February 28, 2006 in the above-identified patent application has been received.

Pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit this Information Disclosure Statement, which includes a completed Form PTO/SB/08a and copies of the foreign references listed thereon.

This application is one application of a family of applications related to a yieldable prop. The family includes:

U.S. Provisional Patent Application Nos. 60/359,089 and 60/398,290;

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

04/26/2006
Date

Signature

Patricia M. Lynch

Typed Name of Person Signing Certificate

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/371,377, filed February 21, 2003;

U.S. Patent Application No. 11/053,086, filed February 8, 2005, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/371,377;

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/687,960, filed October 17, 2003, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/371,377; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/858,621, filed June 2, 2004, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/687,960.

Based on correspondence from the U.S. Patent Office, Examiner Sunil Singh is examining each of the above-identified non-provisional applications.

Although the undersigned believes that Examiner Singh is aware of all of the art cited in each of the cases and has applied only that art that is applicable to the claimed invention of each of the applications, the art cited in the other pending applications and not of record in the instant application are submitted herein.

Applicants acknowledge that the above-identified application has been allowed; however, Applicants believe the Examiner is aware of the art and has considered the art.

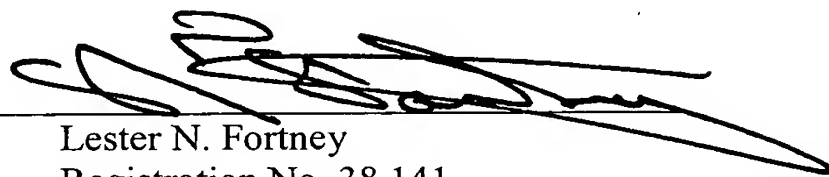
Applicants respectfully request admittance and consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement, and continued allowance of claims 1-23.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2), Applicants enclose herewith the petition fee in the amount of \$180.00 for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. Please refund any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. The original and two copies of this Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

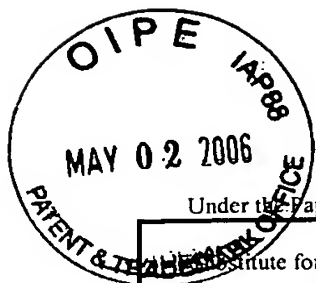
Respectfully submitted,

THE WEBB LAW FIRM

By



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PTO/SB/08a (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/687,960
				Filing Date	October 17, 2003
				First Named Inventor	STANKUS et al.
				Art Unit	3673
				Examiner Name	Sunil Singh
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	2202-031542

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 1,890,423	12/06/1932	W.B. Teagarden	
		US- 2,068,491	01/19/1937	F.J. Jakoubek et al.	
		US- 2,192,079	02/27/1948	W. Hinselmann et al.	
		US- 2,670,170	02/23/1954	A. Haarmann	
		US- 3,089,742	05/14/1963	E. A. Powell	
		US- 3,690,608	09/12/1972	Julius Poizner	
		US- 3,836,174	09/17/1974	Robert E. Holman, Jr.	
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		US- 4,449,876	05/22/1984	Thomas J. Glanton	
		US- 4,983,077	01/08/1991	Werner Sorge et al.	
		US- 5,015,125	05/14/1991	Ben L. Seegmiller	
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		GB 2 209 549 A	05/17/1989	Antonio Piscitelli		
		GB 2 260 559 A	04/21/1993	Susan Irene Powell-Reed et al.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.